

Mugar Wetlands - Serious concerns about Thorndike Place

Julia Carlton MacKay <julia.a.carlton@gmail.com>

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To: ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>

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To the Arlington Conservation Commission,

I am deeply saddened by the Conservation Commission's lack of action as the project proponent fails to comply with the request to install/monitor wells at the appropriate project site location.

As a whole, the project is environmentally unsound. Adding additional impermeable surfaces to wetlands and floodplains in an area that floods and is proximate to existing housing is a terrible idea, and sure to exacerbate a challenge that will already increase due to our changing climate and weather patterns. We are already seeing heavier rainfalls in shorter timeframes than even a decade ago, and stormwater flooding is already a major issue in this area. Our wetlands and floodplains/floodways are only growing in importance. Additionally, the increased car traffic will exacerbate the existing congestion on local roads and arterials. The proponent's claims that this project is an example of Smart Growth and transit-oriented development is inaccurate. While proximate to the Alewife T Station, it is NOT proximate to other required neighborhood amenities including grocery stores, or other transit options that are important connectors in our region. Future residents of this development would need cars in order to accomplish most tasks related to daily living.

Thank you,
Julia Carlton MacKay
Arlington resident